

# Whalesong

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## Duncan vies for seat in Congress

**Juneau Senator and UAS faculty member throws his hat into the ring**

By Alexis Ross Miller  
Whalesong Editor

Sen. Jim Duncan (D-Juneau), a part-time professor in public administration and government at UAS, has decided to challenge Republican Congressman Don Young for the U.S. House seat in 1998.

Duncan has taught courses at UAS since 1984 and before that he taught at the Juneau Community College, which was the precursor to the current university.

Currently he is teaching one government course on the legislative process. He normally teaches one or two courses each semester.

Duncan, who has been in public office since 1972, said that with the demands of a Congressional race and his current seat in the Alaska Senate he will be unable to continue teaching at UAS next semester. He was scheduled to teach one course in January, but he said that after much debate he realizes that he will not be able to teach it. It was a hard decision to make he said since he enjoys teaching, but the demands on his time will not allow him to juggle all three jobs.

In a phone interview from Anchorage, where Duncan is attending the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Convention, he said, "I've served in the Alaska Legislature for almost 24 years and the time is right for me to run. Clearly, I'm not ready to be out of public office. I want to continue public service in another arena, in Congress."

He said, "I'm running for Congress because we need new leadership to take Alaska into the next century. Alaska's congressman needs to put more emphasis on education, and issues that affect our quality as life, as well as the development of natural resources."



Photo courtesy of Senator Duncan's office

Senator Jim Duncan announces candidacy for Congress.

He acknowledges that it will not be an easy race. But he added, "The greatest thing about this race is that it really will be a race. We both have been in public office for over 20 years and we have extensive public records." For Duncan, that is where the difference is. "My record is very clear. I can point to accomplishments. But if you look at Young's record you don't see the same level of accomplishments," he said.

Duncan said, "Alaska's congressman has fought the same battles in the same way for almost thirty years. It's time for a new approach. It's time we pay closer attention to the everyday needs of Alaskans as we look toward Alaska's future."

Although Young touts his seniority in the U.S. House and his chairmanship of the Natural Resources Committee, Duncan believes that the next Congress will swing back to Democratic control. "Political pollsters are looking for Democrats to take 11 seats in the House and that will change the balance of power. Last election there were a number of Republican seats eroded and there will be more this time around," he said.

A strong supporter of the University system, Duncan was instrumental in getting funding for UAS' Egan Library and the new residence hall. "I don't think we now have a strong voice in D.C. dealing with education issues," he said.

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## Professor Petersen is a man for all seasons

**English professor publishes Gold Rush diary in his spare time**

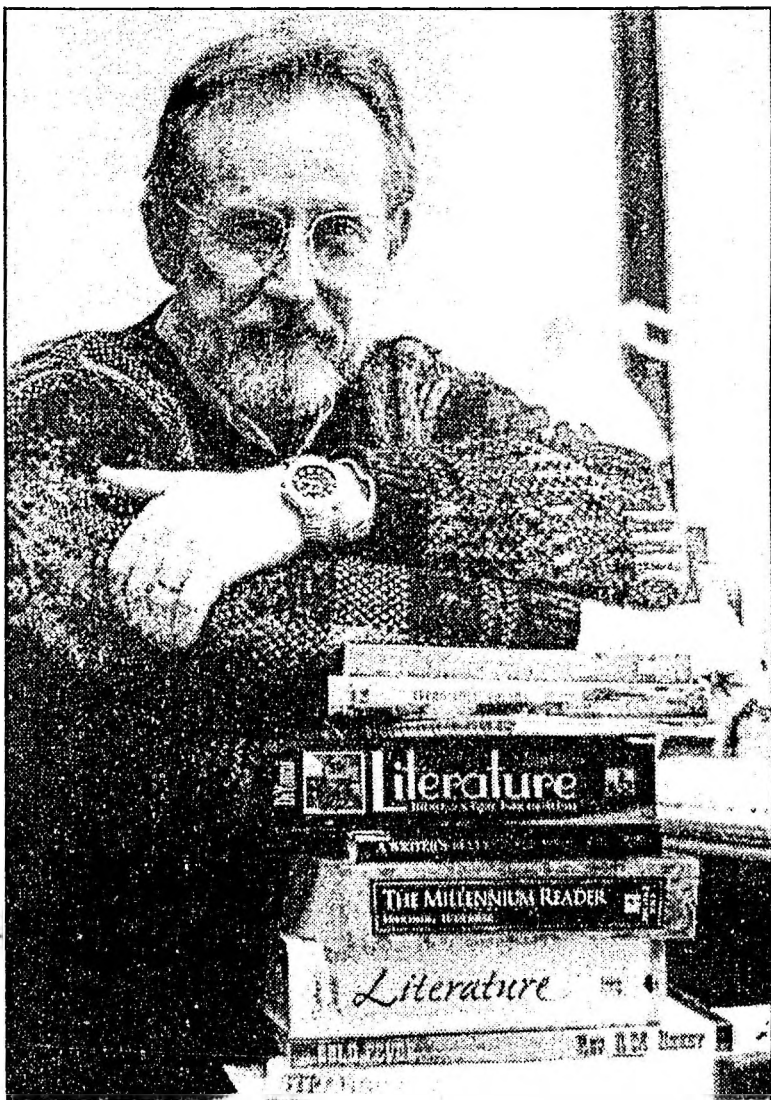


Photo by Matt Miller

English Professor Art Petersen with some of the many books of poetry and prose that fill his office. His latest book, "Gold Fever: A Narrative of the Great Klondike Gold Rush," is near the bottom.

By Heather Montez  
Whalesong reporter

When English Professor Art Petersen came to UAS in 1975, he was just one of two English instructors. He became the thirteenth member of the faculty and he remembers having only eight students in all his classes that semester.

Petersen is enthusiastic about how the university has progressed through the years and about the quality of education a student can now receive here.

"I suppose perhaps we are second to Stanford, Yale or Harvard, or any major university that has been around for 100 or 400 years, after all we've only been an organized university since 1987," he said. "Nevertheless, a person can receive a fine education here." Petersen added that academic standards are high and rising, especially with things like writing assessment.

He has served four years as the writing assessment coordinator for the writing program which started in 1989. He feels the writing assessment program has produced graduates who are clearly demonstrating that they can write well. "Part of the magic of that program is that students are asked to take responsibility for producing quality writing," he said. "Eighty-nine percent of the time I'm very pleased at what I see because it's confident and often superior work that students are producing."

Petersen knows standards are high among the faculty too because, "We look hard for the best (professors) we can find when we recruit for new positions. I have high prospects, high hopes for the quality of this institution."

Along with his duties as writing assessment coordinator, Petersen teaches English 211 and a night-time literature class which rotates on a three-year sequence between Survey of British Literature, Survey of American Literature, Advanced Studies of British Literature and a Shakespeare course. This semester the course

he is teaching is Advanced Studies of British Literature I. This year he is also serving as humanities faculty chair and in that post he advises about 50 students.

And if that weren't enough, he and former UAS English Professor Ron Silva, are the founding editors of *Explorations*, UAS' literary publication. It is an annual compilation of poetry, short fiction and art by students and others from around the U.S. and abroad. *Explorations* now receives almost 1,000 submissions each year for publication.

He even found time in his teaching schedule to author a textbook titled *Petersen's Handbook for Writers of Academic Papers*, which he has updated and revised at least four times. It is currently in its second edition, fourth version printing and is well known around campus. Petersen said he compiled it after hearing comments from students that other handbooks were too thick and had more information than they ever used. Petersen's book contains what he considers to be the essentials. He is hoping to put out a second edition which will have larger text and an additional section on classical developments in composition.

Another book put together by Petersen and Silva, *Strange Powers of Speech*, is an anthology of drama and short fiction, which they produced in 1995. The title is an allusion to the poem, "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner," by Samuel Taylor Coleridge. When the mariner sees someone who needs to hear his message he takes on strange powers of speech and the person cannot help but hear because the mariner basically hypnotizes him or her. The book idea came from the English professor's frustrations with publishers changing textbooks used in literature courses. He and Silva's favorite stories and poems would disappear, reappear and move every three years as new editions came out. They decided to put together their own anthology which would include all of their favorite pieces. They started out with a collection of 25

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## Like Father and Former Student, Sign Me Up as 'Student of Life'

By Alexis Ross Miller  
Whalesong Editor

"Speak softly, but carry a big stick."

"You must have the courage of your convictions."

These were two disparate, yet similar, axioms my father quoted on a regular basis when I was growing up.

As the child most like him—I'm one of eight siblings—and a true believer in my "fighting Irish" roots. I admit I have spent the majority of my life adhering to the second statement.

I've never been known for speaking softly—not that I speak loudly either—I just believe in speaking from the heart and speaking emphatically.

I was raised to revere integrity and honesty above all else. It is a hard thing to be both Irish and honest at times. The old Gaelic gift of the gab is in my DNA.

It is not easy to write about a deceased parent, even though my father has been dead for 14 years now, and to share the scab of his loss with other people, especially in such a public way like this editorial. But like many things I do in my life, I feel that I must.

I don't think one ever gets over the loss of a parent. I know because I have lost both of mine. My father died when I was 23, during September of my senior year at the University of Montana, and my mother four years later. I was attending UM to pursue a degree in

journalism and specifically because it was my father's alma mater.

But the year my father died I was in my final year of Journalism School. I was a double major in English with an emphasis in Creative Writing. And like now I was working on the student newspaper, which at UM is called the Kaimin. It took every ounce of reserve courage and fortitude to return to

Missoula a week after he died and finish school. But I did at the insistence of my mother and my siblings. Because as they echoed one another in saying, "Dad would have wanted you to complete your degree."

Even though I went back that year, I did not complete my B.A. in journalism. Instead I finished my English B.A. in August that next summer and I left school without my coveted journalism degree. Ironically, I was following in my father's footsteps. In 1951 he wasn't able to complete his degree requirements for a master's in journalism. His reason was more pressing at the time. He was a first-time father and it was imperative for him to make a living. (My how times have changed.)

I'm reminded of all of this because

a woman I knew through our mutual participation in many creative writing classes at UAS, died on September 28, two days before the anniversary of my father's death. Jan Baptiste Maas would have been 72 on November 7, but she lost her life to lung cancer. I have known Jan only through my creative writing classes for the past three or four years and never once did I hear

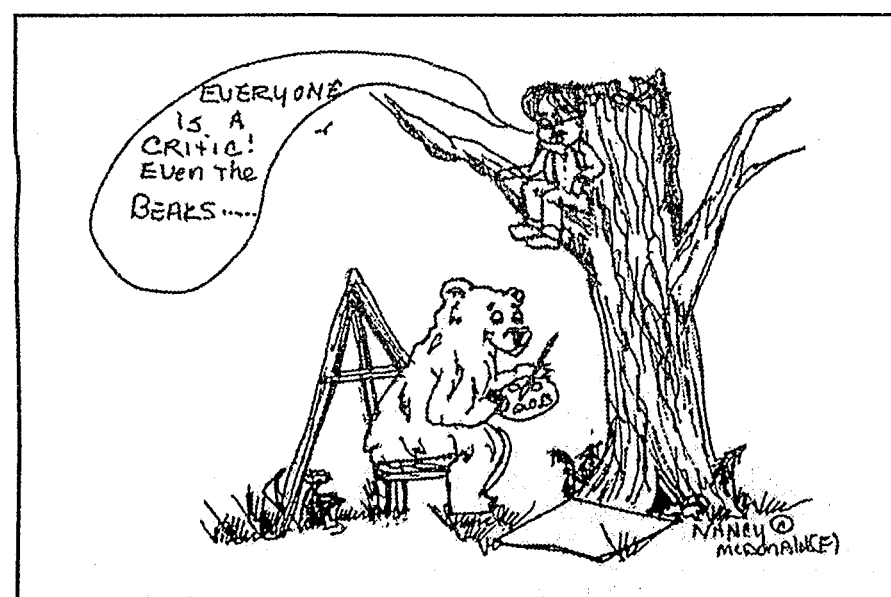
her even mention or complain about her disease. She was a former teacher, who had taught in the Juneau School District for many, many years. She also taught in the prison education program. After retiring from teaching, Jan obtained her law degree, which came as a surprise to me because she certainly never bragged about this accomplishment or even wrote about it.

She almost always had something nice to say to other students about their writing. Another creative writing student, who also took many classes with Jan, said that when she won an award in the Anchorage Daily News/University of Alaska-Anchorage writing contest, Jan wrote her a letter and congratulated her on that award. I think that says it all. That she took the time

to single out a fellow student for her accomplishment and not feel jealous is a very fitting tribute to Jan. It is from random acts of kindness like this that I hope I too will be remembered.

Jan's death gives me pause and makes me think that you never really know someone else, even if you spend months sitting next to them in an English course, even if you read their oft-time highly personal writings. I'm reminded of a quote that goes something like this: you can never truly experience another's heaven or their hell unless you live it. I have no idea if Jan was in extreme pain from the cancer that was devouring her lungs, but I do know that she would take herself off her oxygen tank to come to class this semester. It meant that much to her. Obviously writing and education were a central part of her life. I think too often we forget how very lucky we are—as Americans—to freely participate in an exceptional educational system. I know that Jan's death made me appreciate anew the classes I am taking this semester and the education that I can so readily obtain here at UAS.

*I think too often we forget how very lucky we are—as Americans—to freely participate in an exceptional educational system.*



## Whalesong

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The University of Alaska Southeast student newspaper, *The Whalesong*, is a bi-monthly publication with a circulation of 1500 copies per issue. The *Whalesong's* primary audience is UAS students, although its broader audience includes faculty, staff, and community members. *Whalesong* will strive to inform and entertain its readers, analyze and provide commentary on the news, and serve as a public forum for the free exchange of ideas. The staff of the *Whalesong* values freedom of expression and encourages reader response.

The *Whalesong* editorial staff assumes no responsibility for the content of material written by non-staff members. The views and opinions contained in this paper in no way represent the University of Alaska and reflect only those of the author(s). The editorial staff is solely responsible for content.

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## The Voluntary Circle

### Volunteering leads to success

By Ruth Danner  
Whalesong Columnist

Question #1: How do you define success? A. Becoming rich and famous. B. Living each day well, making ends meet, and finding a place to belong. C. Making a difference, helping others, changing the world in some way for the better. D. Having fun, living life now, carpe diem.

Question #2: What is your likelihood of achieving success as defined in question #1? A. Excellent. B. Very Good. C. Good. D. Not Very Good. E. Not In This Lifetime.

However you answer question #1, the correct answer to question #2 is A.

Really. We all fall under a normal bell curve of success with 10 percent of the population falling at the extreme ends of great success and great failure. And where you fall on the curve is not a matter of chance. It's not tied to where you were born or who your family is. It's not tied directly to your GPA, or how popular you were in high school. The degree of success you will achieve is directly related to the degree of clarity you have on what you want to achieve, your determination to get there, and your willingness to take action to move in the direction of your target.

Question #3: So how do you get to that top 10%? Answer: Volunteer.

That's right. Just volunteer. If

you want to be rich and famous, start now to develop leadership skills, make a positive impression on influential people, align yourself with a winning team(s), build your resume, and gain status because of your accomplishments and visibility.

Find an organization that offers leadership opportunities, like AISES or UAS Alumni Association, or one that has solid connections to positions of power outside the university system like Global Connections and UAS Alumni Association.

If your definition of success is pragmatic and you just want to feel secure about your ability to compete in the work force, explore different career opportunities before you commit for the long run, look for opportunities to gain as much experience as possible in your chosen field, and seek out recognition for your skills and strengths. Lots of organizations have jobs that need to be done: administrative, marketing and public relations, lobbying. These are "No experience required" opportunities you won't find in the work-world. Any good

organization also encourages personal development and improved communication skills.

If this sounds like what you're looking for, try Woonch.Een, AISES, or UAS Alumni Association.

*Whether you want to share a piece of yourself with others to meet their need or you feel society needs someone to keep a watchful eye on a potential problem, you need to position yourself where you can make an impact and act as an agent of change to assure progress toward your vision of a better world.*

their need or you feel society needs someone to keep a watchful eye on a potential problem, you need to position yourself where you can make an impact and act as an agent of change to assure progress toward your vision of a better world. There are three great opportunities to work with the environment on campus, each with a different focus; check out the Marine Biology Club, UAS Stream Watch Adopt-a-Stream Program, or UAS Student Conservation Group. To help promote literacy in elementary children, consider being a Volunteer Reading Coach (ask any Rotarian); to feed the hungry (Glory Hole), comfort the sick (Hospice and Home Care

and the Pioneer's Home), or befriend the weary (AWARE and The Salvation Auxiliary) you have to go off campus, but the gratification makes the trip worth your while.

If you just want to have fun, volunteering is still for you. If you're new in town or ready for a fresh perspective, you need to get to know the community, make new friends, share your talents and have an excuse to do what you love. Do you have a fantasy you'd like to pursue? If the groups already mentioned don't get you going, pick another club or organization that interests you and get with it. Check out the UAS Student Club list on page # of this issue or look for it on a campus bulletin board near you.

Whether you want to share a piece of yourself with others to meet

Whatever you do, do something. Non-profit organizations can provide you with invaluable opportunities, gratifying work, and exposure to influential people. Volunteering provides new challenges in a supportive environment that once mastered will give you the satisfaction of accomplishment that can really make you feel good about yourself and your future as you volunteer for success. Get involved now.

Ruth Danner is in the MBA program at UAS and a consultant specializing in computers, business administration, and communications.

## Letters to the Editor

### Academic Advisor encourages students to get involved

Dear Editor:

Thank you for your article, "A Call To Action: Student Involvement Breeds Positive Changes." Your public support of student involvement was inspirational. I hear too much grumbling about student apathy on this campus. We should be supporting those students who are involved, and encouraged those who are not. It's never too late to get involved.

Positive experience in an environment equals a desire to remain in the environment. Students who enjoy extracurricular involvement not only have a direct connection with the University, but often have better academic success. These are the students who learn good time management and priority setting techniques. They are described as having balance in their lives.

Students wear many different hats other than just being a student. They are friends, parents, sons and daughters, employees. Adding "volunteer" or "club member" to the list is often difficult. As you mentioned in your article, UAS is a great place to "start small." New clubs and committees are formed each semester based on student interest and availability. Besides on-campus involvement, there are opportunities throughout Juneau to volunteer. Often students feel connected to their college community, but what about the greater community that is their home?

So I thank you again for your challenge to students. I used to think that involvement was not for everyone. However, with the variety of involvement so diverse, and the rewards so immense, everyone has the ability to be involved and the potential to make positive changes.

## Conservation student opposes university land bill

By Anissa Berry-Frick  
UAS Student Conservation Group

But you would never guess that your university could be involved in such atrocity as clearcutting its hillside? However, the ravaged landscape at Cape Yakataga and Ketchikan is a scarred tale of short-sighted exploitation at the university's doings.

In April 1997, Sen. Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska), introduced a university land grant bill (SB 660) that would allow the University of Alaska to choose at least 250,000 acres of federal land, as well as 250,000 more acres if the state matches with equal acreage. He has made numerous attempts to avail the Tongass National Forest to increased logging, and has met opposition with this bill before, and with just reason. At risk of clearcut is up to 750,000 acres of National Forest, federal land, and state public land. The areas the university could select from are wild lands protected by the Tongass Timber Reform Act of 1990 that were not designated as Wilderness and National Monument. These areas are prime old-growth forests important for wildlife, fish, subsistence use, recreation and tourism.

Sen. Murkowski is seeking out more ways to open up the Tongass for logging by claiming "historic injustice" that slighted the University land. He neglects to account for a 75,000 acre grant in Sec. 906(b) of

ANILCA (Alaska Native Interest Lands Conservation Act) in 1980. This ranks Alaska not as 48th, but as 34th with all the other states that received federal land grants.

It is recognizable that the UA is a land grant univer-

*For each resident of Alaska, the federal government has given 1/5 acre of land to the UA system. This is three times the amount given to Washington and 31 times more land given to California.*

sity and depends on revenue from its roughly 186,000 acres. During the establishment of the land grants for higher education, each state received land based on population, not total acreage. Alaska received more than its fair share. When the Statehood Act was passed, it extinguished all other land grant requests and 104 million acres of federal land was given to Alaska.

For each resident of Alaska, the federal government has given 1/5 acre of land to the UA system. This is three times the amount given to Washington, and 31 times more

land given to California. Clearly, the state has acquired enough federal land. Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-Arkansas), who opposes the University Lands "grab" Bill, agrees that the state has received its fair share of federal land and questions why each resident of Alaska receives a dividend every year from the state and it still cannot support a university system. If the university needs more funding, it should get it from the state legislature.

The real threat if this bill passes will be to set a dangerous precedent in turning our National Forests over to private hands. Our public lands are part of our national heritage; a freedom where we can retreat from the frenzy of urban sprawl to a wilderness setting that will be there in time immemorial.

Please write the Alaska Delegation (Senators Stevens and Murkowski and Congressman Young) and President Clinton and tell them that you are opposed to the University Land Bill before it is too late. If you would like additional information about this bill or the Student Conservation Group feel free to contact me at 789-6360.

Anissa Berry-Frick is a student at UAS, and she is also the coordinator and student contact for the Student Conservation Group.



## Knowles names UAS Student President to Postsecondary Commission

By Crystal Huskey  
Whalesong Reporter

Current UAS Senate President Rosie Gilbert has been appointed as the student commissioner to the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education. Gilbert will serve in this position for two years.

Nominations for this position were taken from each of the campuses around the state. Each campus could submit up to two candidates and then each campus held their own elections last spring and the winner from each campus then submitted their application and resume to Gov. Tony Knowles, who chose the student to fill the open seat.

In a prepared press release Knowles commended Gilbert for her willingness to serve on the Postsecondary Commission. He said, "I am very pleased to appoint such a talented and dedicated young Alaskan to this very important post."

As a student leader at the University of Alaska Southeast, Rosie has taken on a great deal of responsibility in addition to her academic studies.

"This position was one of great honor to me," Gilbert said. "The student commissioner helps to make sure students have a voice in decisions that are made about their lives." Gilbert will attend her first meeting on Dec. 12.

In his letter recommending Gilbert



Tish Griffin (middle) in her role as advisor to UAS-JC Student Government, and Student President Rosie Gilbert (right) listen while Senator Tenaya Hergert (left foreground) has the floor.

Photo by Matt Miller

for the student seat, UAS Chancellor Marshall Lind wrote, "She is a vigorous supporter of the University of Alaska and has influenced many of her peers to continue their education in the state. Rosie is exactly the type of student role model we enjoy having at the

college. Not only has she taken on a leadership role in the student body, she has worked part-time in student activities as Intramurals Coordinator."

Assistant Director of Student Activities Tish Griffin and the Student Government Advisor also wrote a let-

ter in support of Gilbert's nomination. Griffin said that Gilbert "welcomes additional responsibilities and assignments and is an eager volunteer helping with a myriad of student events. She is full of energy and ideas and motivates other students to participate. I appreciate her humor, her strong communication skills and her commitment to get everything out of her college experience that she can."

Gilbert graduated in 1994 from Petersburg High School as its valedictorian. She is a biology major and maintains a 3.4 GPA.

The main purpose of the commission is to support the development of lifelong learners and productive Alaskan citizens by providing educational loans to postsecondary students and authorizing the operation of postsecondary facilities in the state. The commission is mandated by state statute and currently has seven loan and grant programs which it administers to Alaskan residents as well as two student exchange programs.

To find out more about the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, visit their web site at [www.educ.state.ak.us/acpe/acpehome.html](http://www.educ.state.ak.us/acpe/acpehome.html).

## Griffin: Working hard to make UAS better, more fun

Asst. Director of Student Services says: 'I Have the Best Job on Campus'

By Crystal Huskey  
Whalesong Reporter

If it seems like Tish Griffin is involved in a lot of what happens at UAS, it's not an accident. In her position as assistant director of student services, fellow students, staff, and faculty know her in many different ways because she wears many hats and juggles multiple tasks.

Griffin, who was born in California, earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Washington State University and went on to earn her master's degree in Education, with a specialty in College Student Personnel Administration, from Colorado State University.

Griffin first came to Juneau in 1985 from Washington, where she was employed at Washington State as a residence hall director. Upon her arrival in Juneau, she reported to the director of athletics and her main objective was to open student housing at UAS. According to Griffin, "The whole reason for opening housing was to help increase the number of full-time students. At that time, the average age of a student was 37. The current average age of our students in housing is 22."

When Griffin was promoted in 1988 to the director of activities, athletics, and housing at UAS, she soon discovered the job came with many new additional responsibilities. These responsibilities included everything from being in charge of the bookstore, the children's center, the Whalesong, and acting as the advisor to student government. "Things have changed with the wind," Griffin said regarding how much her job has changed over the years.

Griffin's current position includes fundraising responsibilities, sitting on the chancellor's cabinet,

heading student services, sitting on the steering committee for accreditation, and still serving as the student government advisor.

"I think it's the best job on campus," Griffin said. "It keeps me motivated because there is nothing mundane about my job. It's a wonderful balance of administration and student interaction. I want to be seen as helpful to students."

Griffin has many goals she hopes to accomplish this year through her job. The first goal, which she has already accomplished, was to make Tuxedo Junction 1997 a success. Another goal is to help students develop lifelong friendships and to learn leadership skills. "It's basically like teaching Life Skills 101, because these are the things that students will probably remember the most after college," she said. One other goal Griffin hopes to accomplish is to make sure there are activities and events that meet the interests of all students.

In regards to the overall view of UAS, Griffin said, "I feel like it's Alaska's best kept secret. I hope students don't take it for granted. There is a growing reputation for the university and I want to be a part of it."

As if her day job wasn't enough, Griffin is also very involved in the community. She is a member of the Glacier Valley Rotary Club, President of the Board of Trustees at Chapel by the Lake, and was previously involved in the Juneau Big Brother/Big Sister program for five years.

Griffin is also very involved in her six-year-old daughter Alexandra's life, especially in her education. She even manages to find time to work as a volunteer parent in her daughter's first grade class at Riverbend Elementary School.

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## Student starts stream watchers program at Peterson Creek

By Heather Montez  
Whalesong Reporter



Joel Kafka started the Stream Watchers program last spring at UAS.

A group formed last spring to monitor streams around Juneau is hoping to recruit more help from university students.

Joel Kafka, a biology student at UAS, started the group known as Stream Watchers after he noticed that streams around his house were being encroached by industrial development, oil and other residual effects were occurring from snowplowing, runoff from the dirt roads in the area and new residential developments. At that time, he was living in the Lemon Creek area and was concerned about both Lemon Creek and nearby Vanderbilt Creek.

He remembers hearing about the work that the Discovery Foundation and other researchers were doing on Duck Creek and he became concerned that nothing was being done on the other creeks in Juneau.

Kafka decided he would get a group of students together and begin monitoring the streams before they turned into something as bad as Duck Creek. Kafka said there are a lot of Juneau streams that could just use some public awareness from people who care what happens to them. Kafka feels that some streams are probably already in pretty sad shape, but that no one has ever really looked into why they are that way.

"No one has ever really walked the streams and looked at what kind of fish live in them, or done water quality tests on any of them, Kafka said. "Data needs to be recorded in order to keep track of the animals and fish in and around the streams, along with monitoring the groundwater levels, and mineral contents already in the water."

Getting the baseline data of the streams is what the group is aiming for right now and if they find the streams in bad shape they want to make the public aware of it and drum up possible ways to better manage them. "No one really knows if industry is having a negative impact on streams and at least we can look into it and see," he said.

Peterson Creek, located at the end of North Douglas Island near where the new golf course is being proposed, is already being monitored for stream flow. They are also trying to see which fish species are

present in the creek. His group wants to try to establish a system using invertebrates and plants to indicate the health of the stream. If the animals and plants survive then the stream is healthy, but if they don't well then something needs to be done, he said.

The stream watchers will also set crest and staff gauges in Peterson Creek. Staff gauges measure the height of the water level, while crest gauges indicate the level of water during heavy rains and will show how high the water reaches during flooding, if that occurs.

Because Peterson Creek is still pristine, Kafka feels it is really urgent to get the baseline data now. "If they do put the golf course in, we will have the data to be able to say this stream has definitely been impacted. We won't have much validity if we don't have the baseline data," he said.

The initial group last year consisted of a few interested university students and now Kafka hopes to expand it into a larger network. "I thought that if we had a bigger group of students we could collaborate data and it wouldn't be so overwhelming. If we had 30 people, actually doing some good work out there, that would be reasonable," Kafka said.

The group's first meeting of the semester was held Wednesday, Oct. 15, at the Anderson Building and was well attended by students along with representatives from the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Auke Bay Laboratories, and researchers who have been studying Duck Creek and other streams around Juneau. The research organizations are excited about the enthusiasm of the students and they are willing to provide the stream watch-

ers group with instruments and any professional assistance they might need.

Randy Stahl and Cathy Connor, both science professors at UAS, want to encourage other students to become involved. They are proposing a three-credit research course to be offered next semester that will define specific projects relating to the streams. Professor Stahl encouraged students to use the opportunity to work alongside professionals in the field and gain scientific experience while earning university credit. The professors hope that these course projects will produce useful data that can be used for future scientific reference and give students opportunities to present their data at conferences and to other professionals.

For those students or others interested in helping or anyone who wants additional information on upcoming meetings you may contact Kafka at 790-4674.

### Peterson Creek

Dolly Steel and Otter Splash  
Eagle cries above.  
Mink and Coho  
Pink island water

Silly students of love  
Slow walk squishy  
and raven calls  
Skunk cabbage nibble too  
Snow soft whispers  
Sitka spruce  
I'll buzz along  
and so can you

—LT-G

## Radio station fever breaks out on UAS campus

By Heather Montez  
Whalesong Reporter

Plans for a radio station on campus have been put into motion. Deborah Delaney, communications major and president of the newly formed Radio Station Club, presented ideas for the student-run radio station at the Oct. 3 Student Government meeting.

The ideas were met with enthusiasm by all members at the meeting and a resolution is being written to formalize the student government's support. Their support is the first critical step to success and fruition for the station. With the university's name on the project, the club will be able to write grants and solicit donations from around the state.

However, technically the club is still in need of an advisor before they can officially be considered a club by the university. Since student government is supporting the idea, all it needs now to become official is an advisor, Delaney said. She is hoping that a professor from the Communications Department will be able to take the post.

Although the student government's support has opened up opportunities, there are still a lot of obstacles to overcome. The startup costs and daily running of a radio station can be very expensive, Delaney said. She realizes raising the initial funds to purchase equipment and getting on the air is going to be the hardest part, but this hasn't slowed the club down or deterred them from their goal. The Radio Club will be receiving some assistance from student government but Delaney assured them that the radio station would be self-sufficient once it was up and running. The Radio Club is planning numerous student fund-raisers and hopes that donations of equipment and money will come pouring in, Delaney added.

Club members are looking to radio stations across the state for equipment donations and have already acquired a mixing board from KINY, a local station in downtown Juneau. Delaney feels that once these initial costs are covered and the station is up and running, they will be able to support themselves with advertising. "Our generation is a largely ignored market in Juneau and once there is a radio station catering to us there will undoubtedly follow merchants looking to sell advertising," she said. However, Delaney said that they still need additional equipment and she would like any orga-



Deborah Delaney tries to enlist support from Student Senators for the establishment of a radio station.

nization or person who might be able to donate in-kind contributions or funding to contact her.

The Radio Club has seven students who are very committed to the project and four of those are student government members. The radio station idea originated from Delaney's frustrations about lack of information on campus

activities and the lack of decent music on the current Juneau stations.

"If there was a radio station on campus there would be at least a 100% increase in student involvement, which would mean more fun for the students, higher involvement of students, higher turnouts for fund-raisers and more people interested in attending school here," Delaney said. "Students will listen because students will be running the station." Delaney has inspired others with her views and radio fever has quickly spread through the campus.

The club has been busy researching, obtaining estimates, talking to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), looking into available space on campus and figuring out the electrical needs of a radio station. An area in the student lounge that used to house video games is the prime spot for the station right now and an estimate is being written to enclose and soundproof the area. Estimates for equipment have already come in at close to \$11,000.

Delaney wants to make it clear that this project isn't just for students who want to have fun. She added, the intent for the radio station is to open up a whole range of uses.

"It doesn't need to be just a club and it doesn't need to be something to do on your extra time," she said. "It needs to be something where people who are interested can work not just for fun but for credit and be learning something."

The Radio Club is hoping to integrate the radio station into the Communications Department, where the work experience can be used for practical purposes. Delaney feels this will not only give current communications students opportunities, but will also encourage future students to attend the university. Anchoring the station to an academic program will also ensure the radio stations existence after the current group of enthusiastic students who are working toward establishment of a station have either graduated or gone on, she said.

For those ready to jump on the radio bandwagon and get involved, Radio Club meetings have changed from the previous Tuesday evening meetings to Friday evening meetings, which start at 6 p.m. in the Mourtant Cafeteria. You may call Delaney at 789-9149 for additional information.

## Student Regent has a unique perspective

### Nelson-Wright has ties to all three UA campuses

By Heather Montez  
Whalesong Reporter

Born and raised in Anchorage, Annette Nelson-Wright hasn't fully adjusted to the rainy city of Juneau yet, even though she's lived here for two years. However, she has adjusted to her busy new life as student regent on the University of Alaska Board of Regents.

Nelson-Wright moved to Juneau two years ago after marrying Bruce Wright, a biology professor here at UAS. She was attending classes at UAA before her move to UAS and her step-daughter is taking classes at UAF.

Nelson-Wright has kept busy as a full-time student these past few years and last year added editor of the Whalesong to her schedule. This year, after being appointed by Gov. Tony Knowles to the Board of Regents, the word busy has taken on a whole new meaning.

Nelson-Wright said, "They told me when I was interviewing I would be traveling maybe once every other month. What they didn't tell me were all the peripheral things that are involved."

Along with the regular monthly board meetings, which include time spent reading and reviewing the often one inch thick agendas, Nelson-Wright travels out of town for Planning and Development meetings, Coalition of Student Leaders meetings, and Professional Educators Coordinating Committee meetings. She's also spokesperson and chair of the Coalition of Student Leaders and Ex-Officio member of the University of Alaska Foundation, the non-profit arm of the university that accepts monetary gifts and also provides grants and scholarships for students. Other duties may include giving the keynote speech at the Northwest Student Leadership Conference, speaking at building dedications and playing host to important people like U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley. Nelson-Wright receives and responds to four or five pieces of mail and up to 20 e-mails a day.

And that's not all, on top of those responsibilities, Nelson-Wright is required to be a full-time student. She said, "I don't sleep a lot and I don't have much of a life



Student Regent Annette Nelson-Wright (right) listens to Student Senator Melissa Nell about activities on the Juneau campus.

sometimes, but it's definitely worth it for me because it's rewarding to make a difference and make a change."

Nelson-Wright feels the student regent position is a great opportunity for students to get their voices heard.

The student position comes with the same privileges that the 10 other regents positions have, including voting weight as well as time to voice opinions and make comments on issues. "This is fairly unique for a university student." She has learned that many student regents around the country are not able to vote and may only serve for a one-year term, whereas Nelson-Wright serves a two-year term.

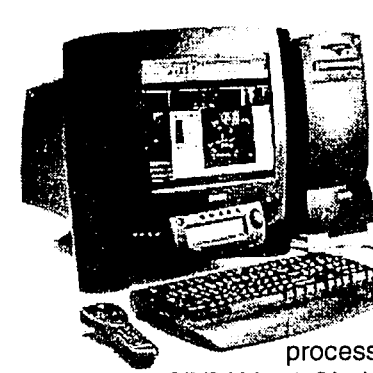
Nelson-Wright said she is amazed at how many students ask her what the Board of Regents do. She said the board is "the governing body that sets all the policies for the University of Alaska throughout the state, all major changes to the system are presented and approved by the Board of Regents." She reminded students that they have an opportunity to voice their opinions to this board through her. Her role is to get things on the agenda that students are concerned about, to discuss these problems and to make the board aware of student concerns.

Because her home is in Juneau, students here at UAS have the unique opportunity of talking to Annette face-to-face anytime they want. She has a desk downstairs in the Mourtant Building in the Student Activities and Housing Office and her door is open for students and faculty to come voice their opinions.

"I decided when I got the position that I would have an office here so people could come and talk to me when they needed," she said. Nelson-Wright encourages students to look at university-related issues and react to them. "Get involved, yeah it takes time and it takes effort, but it's going to end up affecting you so it's to your benefit to find out what is going on. It's always easier to complain after the fact."

She asked people to write her a note if they don't have the time to talk and let her know what they think. You can e-mail her at: jsamn@acad1.alaska.edu. She also encourages students to look at the Board of Regents web site, which lists upcoming conferences and

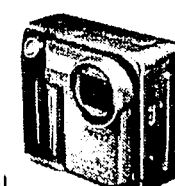
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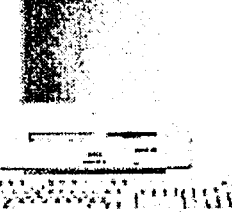
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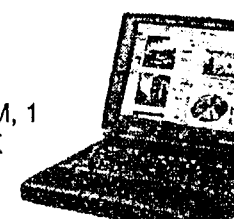
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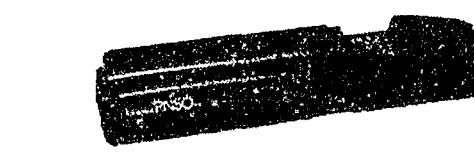
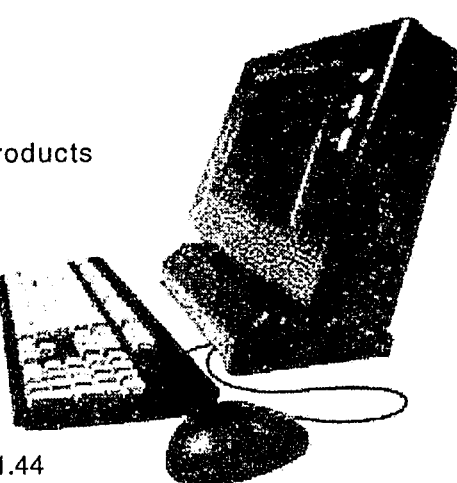
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# T-shirts tell many tales about

**T**hey are hung with clothespins like clean laundry, but the stains they represent will never vanish.

Shirts and blouses of every size and color, each one representing a woman or a child who has had their life torn apart by domestic violence.

The Clothesline Project was started seven years ago in Massachusetts as a method of raising awareness to the problem of violence against women and children, and it has since spread to other states and other communities across the country.

Several dozen Alaskan shirts are hanging in the lobby of the

downtown Federal Building in conjunction with October's designation as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Each shirt is either made by a survivor of violence to help deal with the healing process or by a loved one as a form of tribute.

Many are decorated with artwork, some contain personal details about the person's life, and each one is a particular color to depict the type of violence committed.

White shirts represent those who have died of violence; yellow or beige for those who have been battered

or assaulted; blue or green for survivors of incest and child sexual abuse; and purple for women who have been attacked because of their sexual orientation.

The Clothesline Project notes that one out of every two women will be in a violent relationship sometime in her life, while a woman is raped every minute of every day in this country.

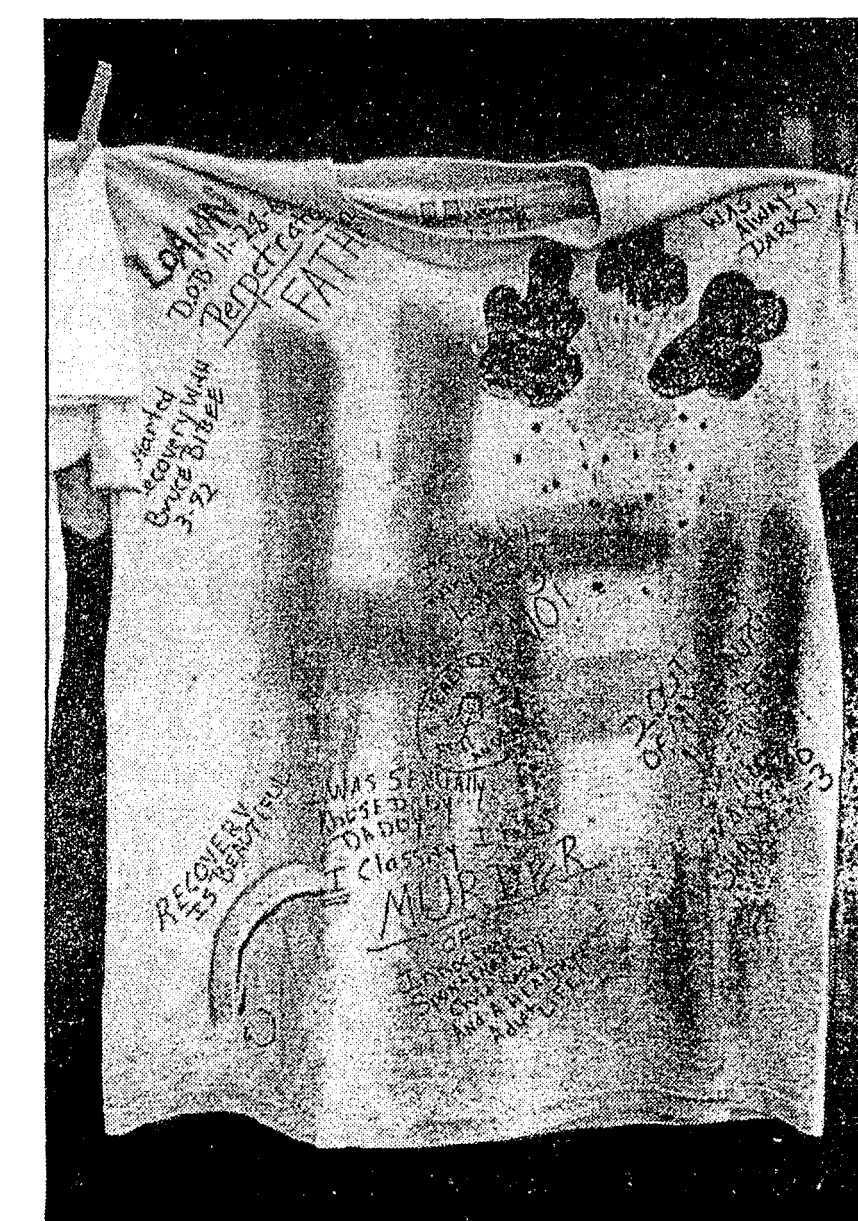
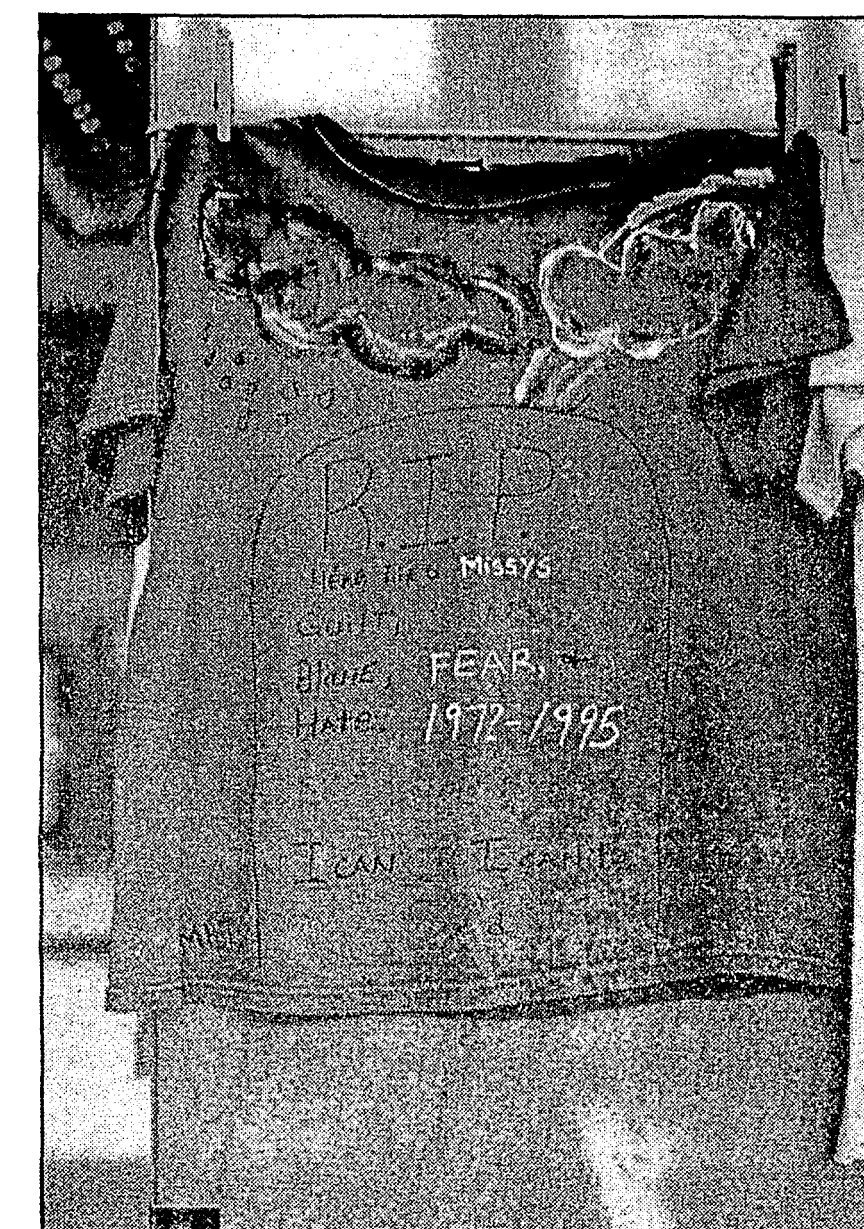
Children aren't immune from such painful and traumatic violence either. At least one out of every three girls and one out of every seven boys will become victims of incest or sexual assault before they reach adulthood.



Photographs and text by Matt Miller



# lives lost to domestic violence





## New gas kiln almost ready to fire up thanks to student funds

By Matt Miller  
Whalesong Photo Editor

It's one of the few campus construction projects—if not the biggest—that has been funded by students.

A new high-temperature gas kiln is expected to be fired up for the first time during the next few weeks, and ceramics students will soon have a chance to experiment with new types of glazes and colors. "Students are excited for this and they're starting to make pots exclusively for it," said Todd Turek, associate professor of Art.

The new kiln is located near the Hendrickson Annex and has been an ongoing interest of Turek's since he arrived at UAS in 1989. Back then, the area outside the Annex was designated by the Art Department and Physical Plant as an outdoor firing area, but it was always wet and exposed, and that can cause problems when firing pottery up to 2,400 degrees.

"If that firing goes too fast or converts the steam too fast, you have an explosion," Turek said. "And I've actually seen that explosion."

As a way to consolidate the area near the Annex, plans drawn up by the university architect included an early design for a kiln shelter, but there was no budget to pay for the \$10,000 price tag back in 1989. "It kind of went by the wayside," Turek said and instead he fashioned a metal awning and an inefficient gas kiln, which lasted for a few years.

He said that the idea for a permanent kiln really began to take root with former UAS Student President Scott Trible. Without any backing or help from Turek, Trible persuaded other student government representatives to set aside \$10,000 for a permanent structure. Turek said Trible also proposed that the area be used as a student congregation area, or for staging canoes

and kayaks for Auke Lake. "Although I initially intended to take the whole thing over and use it exclusively for ceramics," Turek joked.

UAS Chancellor Marshall Lind said students have previously contributed money for other improvements on campus. Some funds were presented as a matching grant for projects initially funded by administration. "The kiln is probably the biggest one," said Lind.

Almost half of the revenues for the Student Government budget came from activity fees assessed to students during registration. Full-time students currently kick in \$15 while students taking less than three credits contribute \$3. Those revenues will make up roughly half of this year's \$160,000 budget that will go for such items as scholarships, activities and events, operation of the Whalesong student newspaper, and stipends for the student government president and vice-president.

Turek was on sabbatical in 1995 when the initial grant was paired up with a matching \$10,000 grant from MAPCO, an Alaskan company which has developed a reputation for fund-

ing other university projects around the state. That was followed by a \$5,000 donation last spring from the administration of the School of Education, Liberal Arts, and Sciences to help cover the total cost of the project.

Like the kiln, Lind encourages students to take an active role and continue to support other projects that might benefit them, but which may never be completed because of budget constraints. "It's a great project, and it's really rewarding to see the students participate in some of these things and take a special interest in it," he said.

The kiln features porous, lightweight, and easy-to-cut high-temperature fire bricks made out of alumina and silica. Similar to the heat-resistant tiles glued to the underside of the space shuttle, the bricks can withstand

temperatures up to 2,600 degrees. At the top of the kiln, the bricks are arranged in a sprung arch that's held in place by a metal frame constructed by T&S Welding, a local company. Such an arch helps with heat and gas flow and it's cheaper to build than a flat-topped kiln.

Along with help from UAS ceramics stu-

dents Guy Lewis and Gordon Harrison, Turek donated his own time this past summer, after class and during week-ends, to construct the kiln. The shelter and concrete pad were already built by Physical Plant workers while Turek was absent and a fence will be added later to prevent oblivious passers-by from stumbling into the kiln while it's in operation.

The current electrical kiln located indoors used radiant heat to heat up pottery to about 2,185 degrees. "It's basically a glorified stove," Turek said.

The new kiln will use natural gas, a carbon-based fuel source, that burns hotter—about 2,400 degrees. "It will be radiating light that will be yellow-hot," he added. Such temperatures will allow for high-fired porcelain and new textures and colors of glazes. "They'll just be different," said Turek and, "they'll have a spotted look to them."

Turek said it'll help bring UAS's kiln facilities up to par with art departments at other schools. "Now, we can offer a complete range of glaze effects. Outside of a salt kiln, we can fire to the same type of temperatures and glaze effects as most colleges and universities in the country."

Once it's completed and operating on a regular basis—possibly as soon as next month—Turek expects as many as sixty ceramics students to put as much as a hundred individual pieces of pottery through the kiln each semester. This will help to take the strain off the current indoor kiln.

So now that Turek's pet project is nearly finished, what's next? "I don't know," he said and laughed. "Usually you have to have something to fill that void. Otherwise, you just come here and find yourself sitting here and staring out the window a lot."

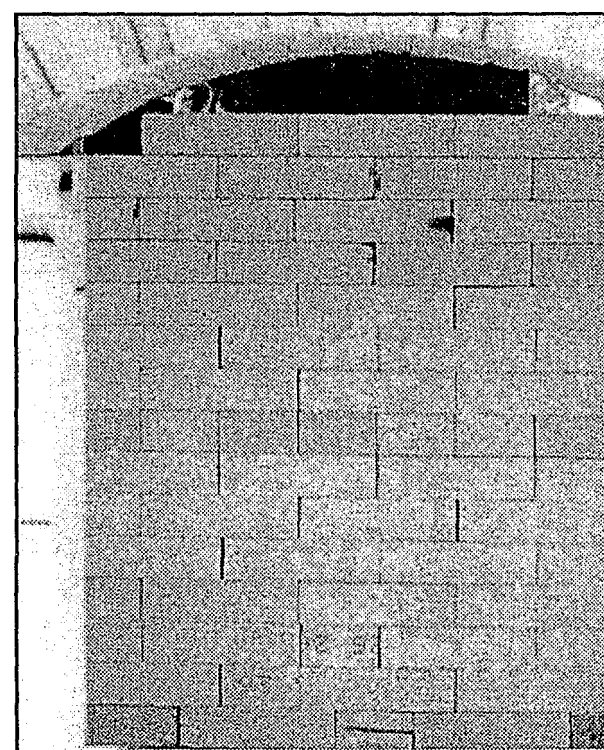


Photo by Matt Miller  
Associate Professor of Art Todd Turek inspects the space under the roof arch of the new high-temperature gas kiln prior to the fitting of the final bricks.

## Inaugural Bread Loaf program receives rave reviews

By Crystal Huskey  
Whalesong Reporter



Photo by Scott Foster  
Scott Christian, coordinator of the Bread Loaf program at UAS and a Bread Loaf alumnus.

The Bread Loaf Literature and Writing Institute was introduced for the first time at UAS this past summer and is coming back next summer. The in-depth three-week program, which consists of taking one graduate literature course and receiving training in telecommunications, is primarily for middle school and high school teachers, but is open to anyone who is interested.

Twenty-seven students, most of whom were teachers from Juneau and other communities in the state, participated in last summer's program. The 1998 program will be held June 8-23 and will be increased to a maximum of 50 students. Another new edition this coming summer will be to open the program to students from the Lower 48, as well as Alaska.

The 27 students who participated in the inaugural program will receive preference if they decide to attend the Juneau institute again. However, those students may choose to attend the full six-week programs in Vermont, at the main Bread Loaf campus, or one of the other two affiliate campuses. Students in the master's program must complete 30 graduate credits during five summer sessions to obtain their degree. They may also choose to accelerate their programs and finish in less time, but the workload is heavy already and it is difficult to do in a shorter timeframe. Scott

Christian, a Bread Loaf alumnus and the coordinator of the Bread Loaf program at UAS, completed his degree in three summers. But he doesn't recommend it for everyone. He said he was ready for the funny farm after his three summers at Bread Loaf, but he added that he loved it too because it is a wonderful program.

The main campus for the Bread Loaf School of English is located at the foot of Bread Loaf Mountain near Middlebury, Vermont. The other affiliate sites for the program are Lincoln College in Oxford, England and the Native American Preparatory School in Rowe, New Mexico. According to Christian, who is also the director of the Professional Education Center at UAS, Juneau may become a permanent site for the program in the near future. Plans are underway to make the 1999 summer session the full six-week program.

Tuition for the 1998 program in Juneau is \$1,000 plus room and board. Accommodations have been made for students to stay in UAS Housing and use the cafeteria for meals. Estimated cost for the meal plan and for housing is about \$720 for the three-week session.

Credits earned through this program can be applied toward degree programs at the Bread Loaf School of English or may be transferable to other institutes.

The three courses students can choose from for the 1998 summer institute are: "Shakespeare and the Wilderness," "Writing and the Sense of Place," and "Native American Literature." Participants in the program will also have the opportunity to participate on BreadNet, which is a telecommunications network for past and present Bread Loafers (or BLers as they commonly refer to themselves).

UAS Dean John Pugh of Faculty was instrumental in bringing Bread Loaf to Juneau. Pugh said, "This program is a prestigious East Coast program that has been in existence for 70 years. UAS is playing a role in bringing a quality writing program to Alaskan residents. Bread Loaf brings some of the best writers and professors from other campuses and other places to Juneau for this summer program," he added.

"It is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our university to these people, who will undoubtedly tell others about UAS. In this way our reputation and the program's can

only continue to grow."

Pugh recently met with the Director of the Bread Loaf program, Jim Maddox, to discuss next summer's session. Maddox traveled to Alaska from Vermont in late September to finalize plans for next summer's institute. He attended the opening days of this past summer's institute and was lucky enough to be here during Juneau's sunniest June in years. Maddox said, "Bread Loaf historically has close connections with Alaska teachers and we are proud to be taking that next step in that partnership. We felt very welcome at UAS and in Juneau and we look forward to another summer there."

Nicchia Leamer, a UAS senior in Liberal Arts, attended the Bread Loaf program in June. Leamer was the youngest student in the program. Leamer said, "I had a grand time and I learned a lot. It was challenging and exciting and I can't wait to go to Vermont next summer."

UAS English Professor Judy Andree was also a Bread Loaf participant this past summer. Andree said, "It was challenging, but nurturing at the same time. We had a wonderful group of people, many, many talented students. And I thought the instructors were very inspiring." She said she will probably attend the Juneau institute next summer.

Whalesong Editor Alexis Ross Miller joined Andree and Leamer in completing the three-week institute. Miller said, "It was the highlight of my summer. It was the most intense academic experience I have ever had. But I loved every minute of it and I can hardly wait until next summer. I hate to miss the Juneau institute, but I hope to attend the full six-week program in Vermont." She added, "If I could clone myself I would because I want to attend all four campuses, but I will probably only be able to afford the program in Vermont."

Anyone interested in applying for this program can contact Christian at 465-8744 or may obtain an application packet by writing to: Bread Loaf School of English, Sunderland Language Center, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont 05753.

Applications for the program are due by March 15.

## Stories on a Dark Night

by UAS faculty

Short stories & poems brought to life by UAS faculty:

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- \* Chris Weaver
- \* Judy Andree
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15 and under/Youth: \$15 Advance • \$18 Door  
UAS Student w/Student ID: \$12 Advance • \$15 Door  
2 and under (lap child): Free



## Nelson-Wright. . .

Continued from page 7

issues students can get involved in (<http://info.alaska.edu/bor/rso.html>).

One issue Nelson-Wright wants to bring to students' attention is the new comprehensive policy for student responsibilities that is currently being written. This policy sets forth the expectations that the university has for its students regarding certain levels of decorum and responsibility. Nelson-Wright has copies of the policy and has given copies to the student government so that students can view them and make comments. "This is something students should have input into. They are being drawn up and they are going to be implemented," she said, and now is the time for students to comment on these policies.

Another issue facing the university system is the incredible budget shortfall and the cuts that need to be made. Nelson-Wright feels confident that the Juneau campus will make it through the budget crunch but students need to know what's going on. "We have a great campus. I don't know if people are really aware of how good we have it here in Juneau," she said, "I'm always so filled with pride when I go to the board meetings. The Juneau campus always look so good, I mean we don't have any dead weight around here, there isn't anyone who isn't doing their part. Chancellor Marshall Lind is responsible for that."

Even though her new position keeps her busy and many times away from her husband, Nelson-Wright likes her post and feels it's her duty. She said, "I feel very fortunate in my life. I have a good life and I think it's a person's responsibility to put something back into the world, into their community, into whatever realm or scope—I think just being a human being on earth, it's part of your duty, if you're physically able."

## Student Government eyes outdoor recreation center

By Rosie Gilbert  
President, USUAS-JC

Student Government has a number of student concerns being brought to our attention that I'd like to bring to the attention of all students. We are in discussion with Chancellor Marshall Lind for an Outdoor Recreation Center. We are looking at a building between the Soboleff Annex and the path to the lake. This would provide storage for more kayaks, skis, and other outdoor equipment we would like to purchase but there is not enough room in the current facility, which is only one room in the downstairs of the Maurant Building.

The instructor for Construction Technology, Gary Bowen, has agreed to take the building on as a class project in the spring. With their help, we would only be responsible for providing materials (estimated at \$5,000). Additional discussion on the building and the Outdoor Recreation Center in general will take place in the Maurant Student Conference Room on Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 3 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and brainstorm with us.

We have heard much enthusiasm for a student radio station on campus this year (see related story on page 8). The Radio Station Club has presented Student Government with a budget of what is needed to get started on this idea and a couple of senators are writing up a resolution in support of the radio station and it will be

voted on in upcoming meetings. Startup costs have been estimated at about \$11,000 and they already have fundraising plans. Please talk to your senators and let us know if you are in favor of a radio station on campus.

Would you be opposed to student funds being allocated for this service? Would you rather have a UAS time slot on other stations currently available? We will be passing around surveys on this topic. Please take the time to fill these out so we can better represent your needs in the Student Senate.

Student Government meetings are Fridays at 4:30 p.m. in the Maurant Student Conference Room (ground floor). You are welcome to join us. If you cannot make it to a meeting but are concerned about an issue we will be talking about, you can write a letter to the Senate and it will be read into the minutes.

Minutes (notes from the meeting) are posted outside the conference room, in the cafeteria, and are available on tape in the Student Government Office. Please take the time to be informed. These decisions will affect you. We are doing the best we can to get student input but if you have any suggestions or concerns, talk to any one of us. We are here as elected officials for you.

Student Government members are: Robb Benitz, Venetia Caruso, Tenaya Hergert, Michelle Hinkley, Autumn Lowrey, Melissa Nell, Tia Rose, and Wonder Russell.

## This Space For Rent. . .

## Alumni Association alive and well and giving money

By Ruth Danner  
Vice President, Alumni Association

The goal of your alumni association is to provide two deserving students with \$2,000 each in scholarship money every year. We are pleased to introduce our scholarship recipients for the 1997-98 academic year, Abigail LaForce and Robert Ivey.

Abigail LaForce graduated from Juneau-Douglas High School last June with a 3.4 grade point average and is eager to continue her formal education at UAS. She is aiming at an Associate of Arts degree in general studies because of its flexibility for use in a four year program and its open applicability to many areas of employment. LaForce hasn't picked an area of emphasis yet, and is looking forward to exploring the possibilities. She has been working at the Bill Ray Center for the university at the Professional Education Training Center, and expects to continue to work her way through school.

According to one teacher, Nancy Thomas, "She knows what it takes to achieve her goals; hard work, responsible effort and persistence." And from another instructor, Alma Harris, "Abby LaForce's greatest skills are her people skills. Abby is a talented and caring young woman who has a wonderful sense of humor." She will be a great addition to the campus.

Robert Ivey of Wrangell High School has set a remarkable pace in his life so far. He is active in cross country, basketball, pep band, and his church youth group. He participated in school plays for the past two years, worked as a lifeguard for the Wrangell Parks and Rec and helped to coordinate the 1996 Little League (Majors) baseball regional and state tournaments. With all these extra curricular activities, he still managed a 3.4 grade point average. Teacher Barbara Neyman says, "The sciences and mathematics disciplines have always been Robert's

strong areas. His true love, however, is the computer." Ivey is a Tech Master, a title given to an elite group of students who provide technical support and training for students and staff and support the district-wide information system including electronic bulletin board and new web site.

Members of the Wrangell community give Ivey rave reviews. According to teacher Lenny Church, "Robert exemplifies the type of student who is a joy to work with. Robert has learned that many things of value in life require hard work, dedication, and a positive attitude to achieve," and teacher Barbara Neyman says his "independence and strength of character [make him] a role model for students facing tough decisions." Dennis Reed, a fishery biologist with the USDA Forest Service calls Robert "very dependable," "eager to learn," and "[possessing] an outstanding work ethic." Patricia Warfel, the school secretary says, "He is a very determined young man and works extremely hard to do the best possible job he can in any situation. He is always willing to help his peers and shows good judgment in different situations that arise." Principal Ray Hillman nominated Ivey for the Principal's Scholarship Program, and perhaps teacher Dan Roope summed up the sentiments of all when he said, "Rob has the perseverance to overcome adversity and he has the potential to make Wrangell High and Alaska proud."

The alumni association is pleased to be able to support the current student body through scholarships and by helping sponsor student activities like the Fall Picnic (this year complete with Sumo wrestlers), and the graduation brunch in May. If you have ideas you would like us to consider, or if you would like to know more about us, contact me at [redanner@alaska.net](mailto:redanner@alaska.net).

Congratulations to LaForce and Ivey on receiving this year's scholarships and to you all for selecting UAS to help you expand your possibilities. We're happy with our results and I hope you will be, too.

## Inside Madame Meng's Crystal Ball

Astrology for the weeks of October 24-November 7

By The Dream Dragon

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)

The Sun enters Scorpio in this last week in October and your life intensifies, gets complicated, and gives you heartburn. Breathe deep. It is just a phase, and you know you will make it through this maze of contracts. Use caution with sex. Ha. Ha. Do Scorpions do that? The pressure of obligation only spurs you to more creative styles.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

Such a party fool. You are in high demand socially, and seem to be spinning out on recent success. Your life is starting to unfold before you, and you are one happy puppy. It seems as if you can get everything done, and your work is easy. When you can manage to sit quietly you will receive a lot of inspiration.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Money and goals, money and goals, you seem to always be just one step ahead of everyone else. Actually, money and goals are what you are about this month (what a surprise), and you may end up spending some money to make money. Your love life improves, everyone wants your time now!

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You are more interested in playing games and having a good time than finishing your projects. Your advisors and teachers may not take kindly to your eccentricities. But use them to your advantage, write that stuff, do that dance, just remember to turn it in once you've written it! You are always on the cutting edge, and if you scare a few people, so be it.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

You've been considering studying astrology and other forms of metaphysics lately. Unfortunately, they are not offered at the school you are attending. Resist that temptation to buy your friend's car because it "needs you." Venus is conjunct with Mars in Sagittarius, which may lead you away from the things you should do and toward a romance that is business or school-related. This is a great time for romance and work for you.

Aries (March 21-April 20)

You yearn for excitement and change since you find life a little dull right now. You consider quitting school, quitting a romance, and traveling. It is just the beginning of a new revolution for you and the upswing is just around the corner. Changes are coming!

Taurus (April 21-May 20)

Ah, you old stickler. Going with the ebb and flow of things is not always the easiest part of your life. You want intimacy and warmth, but some of those tricky scheduling things keep getting in the way. Relax and strive for a balance between your duties and obligations and your social life. Yes, you do have a life.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Whoa, baby, there's a roller coaster in your life, and you are in center field. Fish or cut bait? Fish or cut bait? You work to improve your techno-skills and find that the computers and machines that you have been putting off are quite easy now. You ponder jobs, romance, the meaning of life, and things get a little heavy off and on. Split yourself down the middle, make one half female, the other half male, and go out on Hallowe'en. It will be good for you.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Biases and old insecurities can be discarded now, and this new romance that has been hovering in the corners could take a new turn. You thrive on the idea of being a rebel, and since the Sun enters Aquarius in this period, you find yourself having strange fantasies. Just gear them toward study and work and you will be just fine.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

You want to be thrilled and feel unappreciated. It is just a small thing, and you will receive the attention you deserve very soon, but for now, you must just concentrate on getting your projects done. Things are probably not as dull as they feel, and there is new life ready to smack you at the end of the tunnel. Stand by.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

So why do you have to work so hard, when it seems that others spin around doing as little as possible? It could be that you take yourself too seriously, and need to delegate. Let someone else head that program, tote that barge, scrub that toilet. So what if they don't do it as well as you? Relax and know you are brilliant.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Deny that urge to buy the new computer, new shoes, new car, and the new books that keep whispering your name like an obsession. Perhaps *passion* is a better word. Romances may be tempting as you pass a new birthday, but the truth is probably that this era will lead you more toward your goals, and finishing all of those wearing projects. Balance, remember, that is your keyword.

## UAS Student Club Information (as of 10/23/97)

Club Name	Advisor	Student Contact	Meeting Times	Recognized
Global Connections	Elizabeth Schelle 465-6455/JNEBS	Amelia Jenkins 465-6466/JSAJ	Fridays from 1-2 p.m. Lake Room "Speaker Series"	9/5/97
UAS Ultimate Frisbee Club	David Kleinpeter 465-6528/JNDVK	Benjamin Simons 789-4925	Not Established	9/30/97
Photography Club	Dave Gelotte 780-6255	Christine Krejca 790-4005	Not Established	9/15/97
AISES	Pattie Adkisson 465-6454	Collauna Dick 790-4817	Oct: 9, 23. Nov: 6, 20 Dec: 4, 11	9/28/97
UAS Christian Fellowship	Tommy Gordy 789-7348	Alejandra Orihuela 789-3861	Tuesdays at 9 p.m. Chapel by the Lake Rm. #204	9/17/97
UAS Student Conservation Group	Brendan Kelly 465-6510	Anissa Berry-Frick 789-6360	Not Established	9/15/97
Eckankar/Juneau-Satsang Society	Eileen Franson 465-6294	Patrick Wright 364-2591	Workshop Services: Sundays from 10-11 a.m.	9/22/97
Kayaking & Boating Club	Eric Leegard 465-8778	Mike Heiman 790-2250	Not Established	10/1/97
UAS Marine Biology Club	Ed Cain 465-6599	Anne Reynolds 789-3747	Not Established	10/9/97
Wocch Een	Pattie Adkisson 465-6454		Not Established	Awaiting Recognition Request
Spanish Club	Rick Bellagh 465-6432	Wonder Russell 780-6570/xulon@alaska.net	Not Established	10/3/97
Intramural Volleyball Club	Timi Hough 465-6389	Hillory Woelkers 789-3261	Not Established	10/23/97

## UAS OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTER

### WHAT IS IT YOU ASK?

Right now it's a few kayaks and tents in a closet for students to rent at a great price.

### WHAT CAN IT BECOME?

The UAS Chancellor has given his support to the construction of a facility that would allow for future growth. That means backpacks, stoves, bikes, Rollerblades@ ... items you, the student, chose on last year's "Christmas List" survey.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO!

Come to this years first meeting on Thursday, November 5 at 3 pm in the Maurant Student Conference Room.





## DON'T GET SCAMMED ON YOUR WAY TO COLLEGE!

LOOK FOR 6 SIGNS  
A SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH  
MAY BE A SCHOLARSHIP SCAM!

1. "This scholarship is guaranteed or your money back."  
*No one can guarantee that they'll get you a grant or scholarship. Refund guarantees often have conditions or strings attached. Get refund policies in writing before you pay.*
2. "You can't get this information anywhere else."  
*There are many free lists of scholarships available. Check with your school or library before you decide to pay someone to do the work for you.*
3. "May I have your credit card or bank account number to hold this scholarship?"  
*Don't give out your credit card or bank account number on the phone without getting information in writing first. It may be a set-up for an unauthorized withdrawal from your account.*
4. "We'll do all the work."  
*Don't be fooled. There's no way around it. You must apply for scholarships or grants yourself.*
5. "The scholarship will cost some money."  
*Don't pay anyone who claims to be "holding" a scholarship or grant for you. Free money shouldn't cost a thing.*
6. "You've been selected by a national foundation to receive a scholarship" or "You're a finalist in a contest" (that you never entered).  
*Before you send money to apply for a scholarship, check it out. Make sure the foundation or program is legitimate.*

### NEED MONEY FOR COLLEGE?

Check with your school guidance counselor or local librarian for free information about current scholarships before you pay someone for the same or similar scholarship lists.

For more information about planning and paying for college, visit the Web site for Saline Mae at <http://www.salinaemae.com>. Saline Mae is a financial services corporation that specializes in funding student loans. To find out how to spot, stop and report a scholarship scam, contact the Federal Trade Commission at R.O. Box 996, Washington, DC 20580, on the Web at <http://www.ftc.gov>, or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7060.

## Student debt influences major life decisions, survey finds

By Colleen De Baise  
College Press Exchange

BOSTON—The average student's debt is \$10,000 more than it was six years ago, and the heavy burden of payback affects major life decisions, such as when to marry or have kids, a survey says.

After graduation, the average student is faced with a pile of debt totaling \$18,800, according to Nellie Mae, the largest non-profit provider of student loans in the country, which conducted the study. That figure has more than doubled since 1991, when the average debt was \$8,200.

The fact that college tuition has risen at twice the rate of inflation is one reason for the explosive growth in borrowing, the study found. Another factor is that more loans and less grants are available to students. Also, there's a growing number of older students who don't get as much financial help from their parents, the survey found.

Most of the 1,098 students interviewed as part of Nellie Mae's National Student Loan Survey described their debt as a necessary evil. Even though monthly payments take a huge bite from their paychecks, grads said a college diploma would have been nearly impossible without loans.

About three-quarters said the investment they made in their education was worth it for personal growth, and 64 percent said it was worth it for career opportunities. "For today's job seeker, a college education is just as important as a high school diploma was a generation ago," said Lawrence O'Toole, Nellie Mae president. "While a majority of borrowers earn enough to offset their debt without too much of an impact, there are pockets of burden

among some, such as those who have high debt and low salaries."

In fact, 36 percent of grads said payback was much harder than anticipated, the survey found. Many borrowers report that their debt load is causing them to put off major life decisions, such as when to start a family, purchase a new home or attend graduate school. Amanda Finck, a first-year law school student at the University of Toledo, said the fear of loan payback influenced her choice of law schools. "[That's] one reason I came to Toledo and didn't go to private school for law school," she said. "I am worried about paying back the money."

A growing number of students said they have delayed getting married (15 percent) and buying a car (31 percent) because of their student loans. The average debt for borrowers who attended private four-year colleges was \$17,500; for public colleges it was \$13,000. Graduate school students had an average debt of \$24,500, and professional school students (law, medical) had an average debt of \$50,000.

As much as student loan debt is increasing, so are credit card balances. According to Nellie Mae, college students who have applied for loans have an average credit card balance of \$2,226. Graduate students have on average seven cards and an average balance of \$5,800.

"Clearly, students need to be cautious about credit card borrowing in college," O'Toole said. "It's very easy to over-extend, especially for 'virgin' credit consumers."

The survey showed that 26 percent of all students surveyed used credit cards to help finance their education.

## Sex can affect the brain

By Lidia Wasowicz  
UPI

SAN FRANCISCO—Scientists say they have evidence sex can affect the brain.

The University of California, Berkeley, researchers say Wednesday in the British journal *Nature* they found structural changes at the base of the spinal cord in cells of the nervous system called neurons that control erection and ejaculation in male rats. They say the findings have implications for research into brain differences between homosexuals and heterosexuals.

Marc Breedlove, professor of psychology, notes, "These findings give us proof that sexual experience can alter the structure of the brain, just as genes can alter it."

While scientific literature points to ample evidence of a genetic factor in homosexuality, Breedlove says, the latest work suggests sexual orientation may also be affected by experience, as scientists have believed.

In his words, "You can't assume that

because you find a structural difference in the brain, it was caused by genes. You don't know how the difference got there."

Past studies have shown a part of the hypothalamus a brain structure associated with sexual appetite and gratification is smaller in women and homosexuals than in heterosexual men. This led to inferences that the difference might be inborn.

The new research indicates it could also be the result of sexual experiences.

In the latest study, investigators looked at the brains of sexually active and inactive male rats. They found motoneurons the cells in a hormone-sensitive part of the brain were smaller in the lover than in the virgin rats.

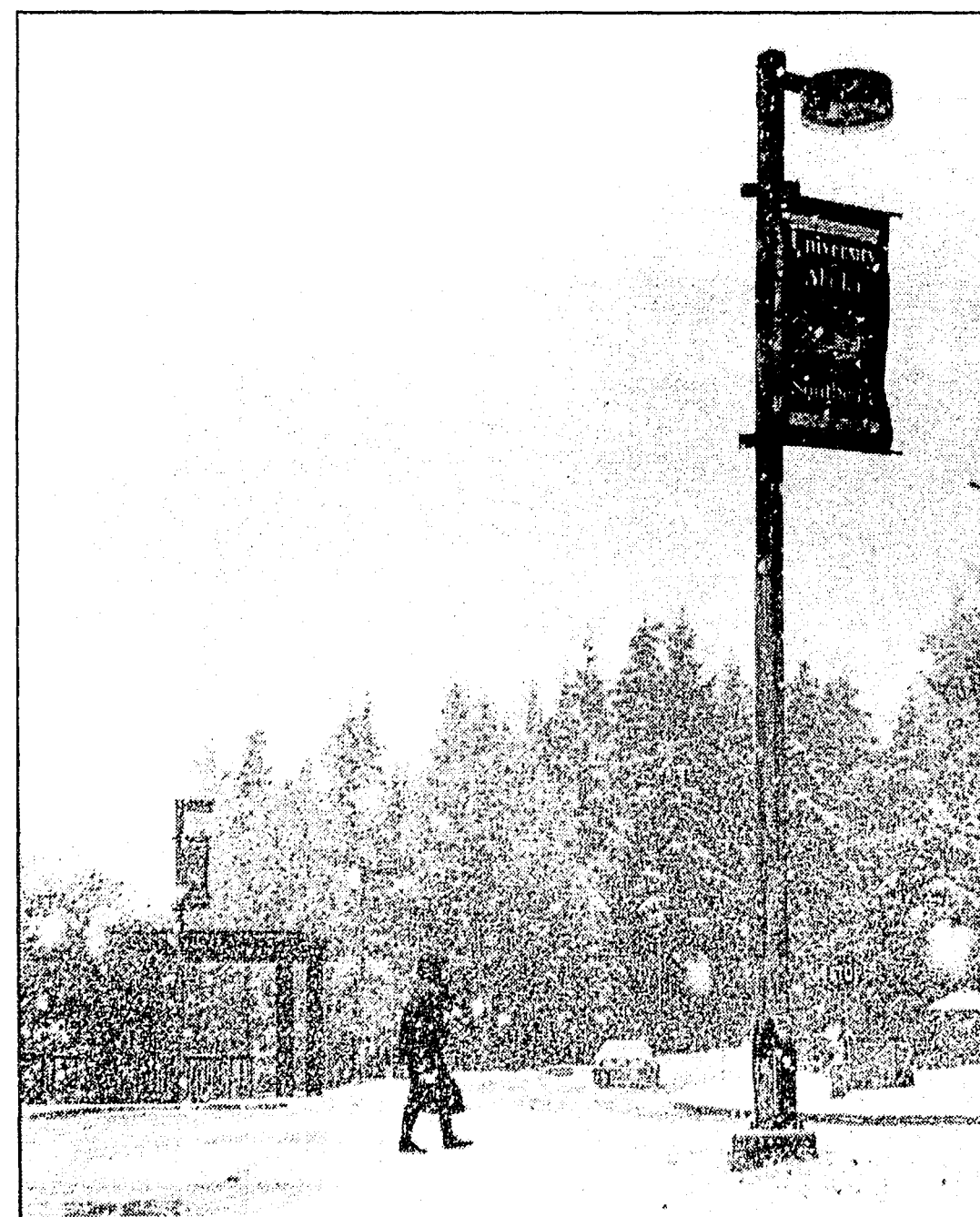
Says Breedlove, "Somehow the extensive sexual experience affected the morphology of these neurons."

It is possible, he says, that differences in sexual behavior cause, rather than are caused by, differences in brain structure.



Do you think you're the next  
Ellen Goodman?  
George Will?  
Mike Doogan?

The Whalesong Needs You!  
Contact us at 465-6434



Wet and chunky flakes briefly greeted departing students and faculty during the late afternoon of Oct. 13. Although the first snow of the season was for treacherous driving conditions, almost all of it was gone within a day.

Photo by Matt Miller

## Education profs harbor serious doubts about their students, survey finds

By Philip Walzer  
Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Services

NORFOLK, Va.—Roughly three-quarters of education professors harbor serious doubts about the capabilities of some of their students, the future teachers of America, according to a report.

In the Public Agenda survey of 900 professors, 75 percent said too many prospective teachers have trouble writing essays free of mistakes in grammar and spelling.

In addition, 72 percent said they often or sometimes have a student they doubt will become a good teacher. And 86 percent think college education programs need to do a better job of weeding out students.

The report, released Tuesday, raises questions about the quality of teachers at a time when the public and politicians are increasingly worried about the quality of education youngsters are receiving.

The professors' viewpoints are "a signal that they don't have the confidence that their goals will be realized in the real world, given the corps of recruits that they work with," said Steve Farkas, co-author of the report and vice president of Public Agenda. The organization is a nonprofit, non-partisan group aimed at helping citizens understand policy issues and helping leaders understand the public's point of view.

Marian Flickinger, president of the Norfolk Federation of Teachers, said Wednesday that she believes most teachers are "outstanding," but "I still

think there's a portion that need to improve their skills."

She thinks both universities and school systems should work harder to ensure that youngsters get top-notch teachers.

"They shouldn't be graduating from an institution of higher education if they have those problems—unless there are no standards," she said.

At Norfolk State University, education professors say that they sometimes encounter students with problems but that there are enough safeguards to ensure that only well-qualified students graduate.

"Some of the teachers that we have often make mistakes in spelling and sometimes grammar, but it doesn't mean they will not become good teachers," said Shirley S. Winstead, director of student teaching at Norfolk State University. Those students, she said, are referred to the university's language laboratory and often tutored by their peers.

At Virginia Wesleyan College, students must pass such an exam generally in their junior year or they cannot continue in the program, said Lin Logan, an associate professor of education.

Alan Arroyo, Regent University's dean of the School of Education, said good grades aren't the only foundation of a good teacher. "Does this person have a heart for teaching?" Arroyo asked. "If you can't build a relationship with a student, they can have a 4.0 from Harvard and not be good teachers."

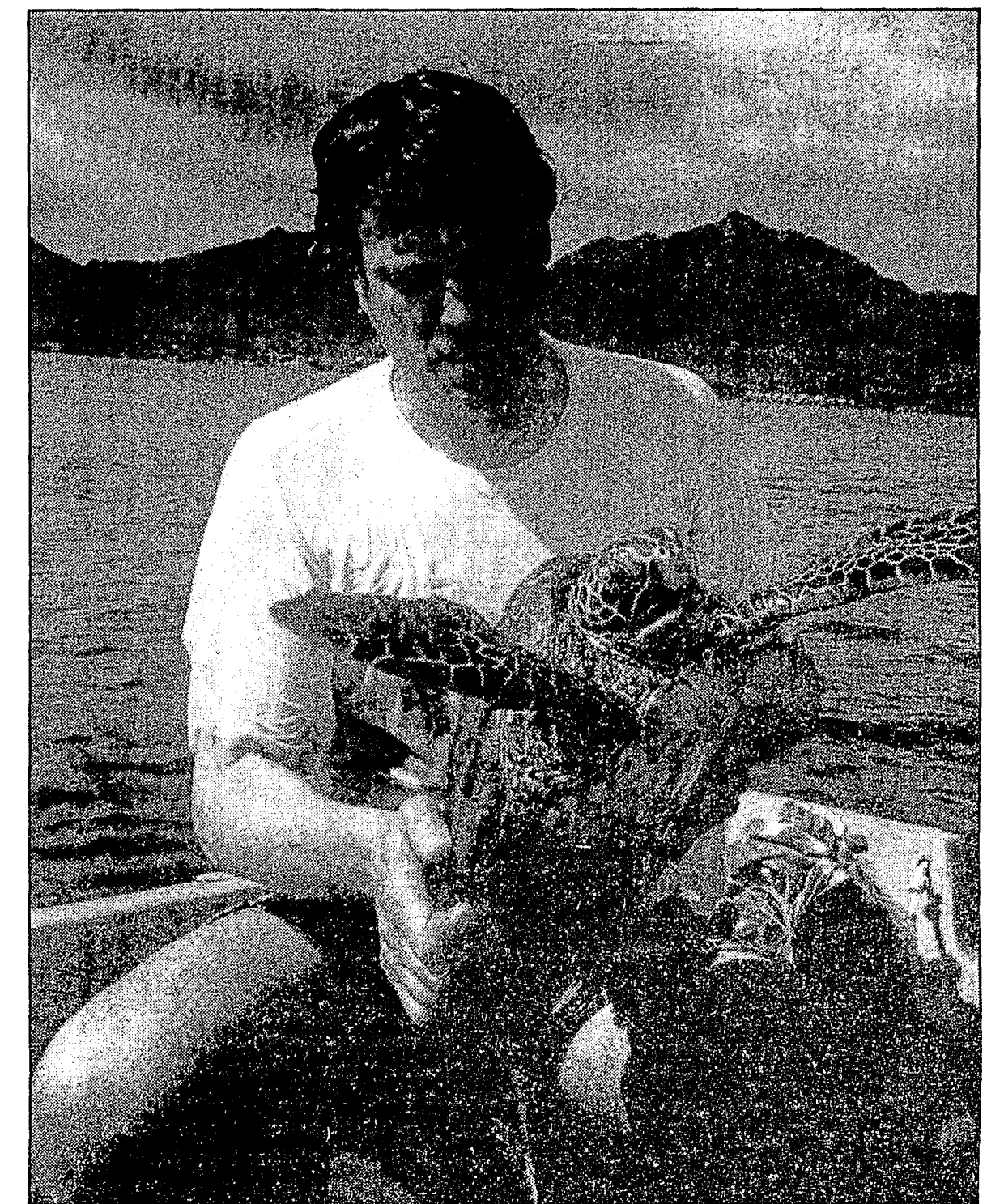


Photo courtesy of Dr. Dennis Russell  
Dr. Dennis Russell holds up a juvenile sea turtle while bouncing around in a skiff off the shore of Hawaii. Russell, a UAS biology professor who specializes in marine biology and the diet of sea turtles, travels to the islands almost every other year. While there, he and other researchers capture the turtles and measure them, take blood samples and attach identification tags, and then release the turtles into the wild. Russell's team also found several turtles which have had their health endangered from discarded fishing lines. Russell's research was featured last Friday during a lunchtime slide presentation as part of "Fun Facts Faculty Friday," a student government organized presentation.

## First Lady: Princess Di, Mother Teresa opposites as role models

By Ralph Cipriano  
Knight-Ridder/  
Tribune News Services

PHILADELPHIA—Hillary Rodham Clinton, speaking at the University of Pennsylvania Wednesday, recalled Princess Diana and Mother Teresa as role models who were complete opposites.

Clinton said Mother Teresa was a tiny woman whom she had to bend over to talk to but who exuded authority and thought nothing of bossing her around.

Clinton said Mother Teresa once told her that she was opening a home for poor children in Washington, and that she expected the President's wife to lend her full support.

"I was saying, 'Yes, yes, I will,'" Clinton said, laughing.

Clinton said that she had to look up to Princess Diana, but that the princess was shy and quiet and had to be drawn out at first.

That changed, Clinton said that in the four years she knew Diana, she saw "tremendous growth in the maturity of this young woman."

She said that the princess became much more self-confident

and assured, but that she and Mother Teresa used to talk about Diana, and worry about how she would hold up under such intense public scrutiny.

"Mother Teresa was very fond of Princess Diana," Clinton said.

Clinton was in town to receive the Beacon Award from the Trustees Council of Penn Women. The group gave the award to Clinton for her "leadership and courage" on behalf of women and children.

Clinton, praised by Penn President Judith Rodin as the "definitive woman of the '90s," said she was "deeply honored to receive this award from women I admire and respect so much."

The award was presented to Clinton by U.S. District Judge Marjorie O. Rendell, who next month will become judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Judge Rendell, wife of Mayor Rendell and a member of the Trustees Council at Penn, praised Clinton for her "global advocacy of children's health issues."

Judge Rendell said the trustees would make a contribution to the Pediatric AIDS Foundation in Clinton's name.



MOTHER TERESA  
1910-1997

MLEN 97



## Petersen. . .

Continued from page 1

stories and then added a section on drama. Peterson wants to revise the book and complete it by adding a section on poetry, but right now he doesn't have time.

The idea for another Petersen book came into being during a trip to Skagway with his mother and his son. This short visit propelled him into writing about the Gold Rush. During his stay in Skagway he came across the bust of a woman, which told a story about her courageous and inspiring life. The woman, Molly Walsh, came to Skagway in 1897 and was murdered by her husband in Seattle in 1903. Petersen wondered about this inspiring spirit after viewing her statue and he started looking for information about her. He found all kinds of conflicting stories that lead to a 13-year search for additional information and eventually culminated in his book, *Murder, Madness and Mystery*, which was published in 1991, can be found at the University's Egan Library.

Searching for information on Molly Walsh lead him to another interesting Gold Rush figure, Robert M. Dickey. Dickey's writings were the major source of information on Molly Walsh because she appeared in various transcripts of his diaries. Searching for the actual Dickey diary, Petersen connected with Dickey's daughter and found another transcript written by Dickey that had never been published. This transcript was a narrative account of his experiences in the Klondike from 1897-1899.

Dickey's daughter and Petersen felt it would be a great project to publish and so he decided to take the task on. *Gold Fever*, the most recent book compiled by Petersen, is illustrated with photos made from old magic lantern slides that Dickey used when he lectured about his experiences in the Klondike. The book will soon be available in the Egan Library, but can be purchased at local bookstores and is available at the Alaska State Library.

Another Gold Rush project that has been sitting on the back burner for a number of years is a book about a doctor named Leroy Townsend, who joined a prospecting company heading for Valdez in 1898. Townsend never did much prospecting but spent most of his time administering to sick prospectors. His story comes from letters he wrote home along with numerous photographs he took during his time in Alaska.

"I haven't had any free time in about five years," Petersen said. But he hopes that will soon change. He has applied for a sabbatical for the fall of 1998, which he believes will allow him to finish the second editions of his academic books and also give him time to finish researching and compiling information for his book on Leroy Townsend.

When he does find time to relax, which isn't often, he likes to get outdoors with his wife Tina, who is almost as busy as he is teaching math and science at Floyd Dryden Middle School.

## Duncan. . .

Continued from page 1

"Some of the policies out of the Clinton Administration have not served Alaska well. It is important to have a voice in the Democratic party back in D.C.," and he added, "Just because Bill Clinton is a Democrat doesn't mean I will be a yes man to him. I will stand up for Alaska's needs."

He said, "The issues will develop as the campaign proceeds. Right now, my focus will be on the upcoming legislative session and resolving important statewide issues, including subsistence, education funding and developing a responsible long-range spending plan for the state."

The senior member of the Legislature, Duncan has served as Senate minority leader since 1993. Because he wants to focus on legislative issues during the session he is working hard for the next three months to put a campaign structure in place and to raise funds. He has set a goal of \$100,000 by Dec. 31. That is just the first step toward his minimum goal of \$500,000 for the race. Financially, he is starting from scratch. At a maximum, he said, he would like to raise as much as \$750,000, if possible. But he believes he can run a credible race with less than that amount.

He has hired a national campaign firm, Seder, Laugens, and Hamburger, from Washington, D.C. One of the firm's principals, Martin Hamburger, worked on

the first Knowles for Governor campaign.

Duncan said his full campaign will begin in the spring after the legislative session ends. However, he hopes to hire his campaign staff by January and open offices in the three urban areas of the state, Juneau, Anchorage and Fairbanks.

Duncan was first elected to the State Senate in 1986. He was elected to the Alaska House of Representatives in 1974 and served there for 12 years until he ran for the Senate. From 1972 to 1974, he was a member of the Juneau City and Borough Assembly.

Duncan currently serves on the Senate Rules Committee and the State Affairs Committee, as well as the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics. During his tenure in the Legislature he has served on both the House and Senate Finance Committees for a total of 16 years. For 10 years he has held a seat on the Operating Budget Conference Committee.

He holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Oregon State University, a Bachelor of Science degree from Illinois State University, and an A.A. degree from Sheldon Jackson College in Sitka.

He was born in Muscatine, Iowa in 1942 and moved to Alaska in 1961. His wife, Charlotte, was born and raised in Southeast. He and Charlotte have eight children and five grandchildren.

## Getting to know your student government members

By Crystal Huskey  
Whalesong Reporter

This is the second part of a series of short biographies on the current student government members at UAS. You may be sitting next to one of these students in your biology class or your English class and you may not even know it. That may be your opportunity to share your concerns about university budget cuts and tuition increases and other relevant university issues.

### Rosie Gilbert



Junior Rosie Gilbert is the UAS Student Senate President this year. She took over her new position on July 1.

According to Gilbert, "I'm in it for the students' benefit." She encourages students to come and talk with her or to write the Student Senate a letter addressing their problems, concerns, or ideas they may have. She also encourages students to come to the student government meetings, which are held every Friday at 4:30 p.m. in the Maurant Building Conference Room, located on the ground floor.

Gilbert served as a student senator for one and a half years before taking over as president. She is currently a member of the Campus Council, the Coalition of Student Leaders, chair of the Outdoor Recreation Board, and has just been appointed as the student commissioner to the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (see re-

lated article on page 4).

Gilbert is working toward earning her bachelor's degree in Marine Biology. She is originally from Petersburg, a small fishing village with a distinctive Norwegian heritage, about 100 miles south of Juneau. Gilbert spent summers working for Tonka Seafoods.

When she has the time (which isn't very often) she enjoys hiking.

### Autumn Lowrey



UAS Biology major Autumn Lowrey decided to get involved in the student senate for one main reason, "There were things I felt needed to be changed so I figured I'd get involved and get it done myself," she said.

Lowrey, a junior, has served as a student senator for one year. She currently is the chair of the Rules Committee and is also a member of the Activities Committee. She is involved in the Snowboard Club and serves on the Outdoor Recreation Board.

Lowrey is originally from Pueblo, Colo. "I moved to Juneau because I wanted to go to an out-of-state school and the WUE (Western Undergraduate Exchange Program) at UAS made this possible."

When she has the opportunity, Lowrey enjoys various indoor and outdoor recreational activities.

## UAS Classifieds

### Lost and Found

*Lost: Spanish/English Dictionary. Left in class, Hendrickson Auditorium on 10/16/97. Please return to Garri at 789-5108 or to Rick Bellagh's office in the Soboleff Annex Room 108.*

### Help Wanted

*WANTED: Caring, energetic, creative men and women to provide respite for children/teens/adults who experience developmental disabilities. \$7.50 - \$10.00 / hour. Please call Mary Nelson, REACH, Inc. 586-8228*

### Meetings

*Gay/Lesbian Outreach AA, a regularly scheduled Alcoholics Anonymous meeting designed especially to welcome G/L Alcoholics to full, equal, regular participation in the Juneau Fellowship. Thursday 7 - 8 p.m. at Juneau Public Health Center, 1st Floor Conference Room, 3412 Glacier Highway. Phone 586-1161 for more info*

*PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) offers A TIME TO TALK: support group for those who want to understand. Call 463-4203*

### For Sale

*Nintendo 64 with 3 games  
Wave Race 64, Wayne Gretzky Hockey,  
Killer Instinct Gold  
All for \$200  
Call Mark at 586-2371 or  
e-mail: jsmll@acad1.alaska.edu*

### Miscellaneous

*UAS Students ... Do you have something to advertise? Take advantage of our FREE classifieds. Non-Student rates are \$10 for up to 25 words, and \$5 each subsequent issue same ad is run. Drop your ad off by our office downstairs in the Maurant Building.*